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NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE AND FEE(S) DUE

22474

7590

02/03/2004

DOUGHERTY, CLEMENTS & HOFER 1901 ROXBOROUGH ROAD SUITE300 CHARLOTTE, NC 28211 EXAMINER ANDREWS, MELVYN J

PAPER NUMBER

ART UNIT

DATE MAILED: 02/03/2004

1	APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
	10/056,131	01/24/2002	Glenn E. Hoffman	2480	2338

TITLE OF INVENTION: FURNACE HEARTH FOR IMPROVED MOLTEN IRON PRODUCTION AND METHOD OF OPERATION

APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY ISSUE FEE I NO \$1330		PUBLICATION FEE	TOTAL FEE(S) DUE	DATE DUE
nonprovisional			\$0	\$1330	05/03/2004

THE APPLICATION IDENTIFIED ABOVE HAS BEEN EXAMINED AND IS ALLOWED FOR ISSUANCE AS A PATENT. PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS CLOSED. THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS. THIS APPLICATION IS SUBJECT TO WITHDRAWAL FROM ISSUE AT THE INITIATIVE OF THE OFFICE OR UPON PETITION BY THE APPLICANT. SEE 37 CFR 1.313 AND MPEP 1308.

THE ISSUE FEE AND PUBLICATION FEE (IF REQUIRED) MUST BE PAID WITHIN <u>THREE MONTHS</u> FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS NOTICE OR THIS APPLICATION SHALL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED. <u>THIS STATUTORY PERIOD CANNOT BE EXTENDED</u>. SEE 35 U.S.C. 151. THE ISSUE FEE DUE INDICATED ABOVE REFLECTS A CREDIT FOR ANY PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE APPLIED IN THIS APPLICATION. THE PTOL-85B (OR AN EQUIVALENT) MUST BE RETURNED WITHIN THIS PERIOD EVEN IF NO FEE IS DUE OR THE APPLICATION WILL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED.

HOW TO REPLY TO THIS NOTICE:

I. Review the SMALL ENTITY status shown above.

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as YES, verify your current SMALL ENTITY status:

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B. If applicant claimed SMALL ENTITY status before, or is now claiming SMALL ENTITY status, check the box below and enclose the PUBLICATION FEE and 1/2 the ISSUE FEE shown above.

 Applicant claims SMALL ENTITY status. See 37 CFR 1.27.

II. PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL should be completed and returned to the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) with your ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). Even if the fee(s) have already been paid, Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal should be completed and returned. If you are charging the fee(s) to your deposit account, section "4b" of Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal should be completed and an extra copy of the form should be submitted.

III. All communications regarding this application must give the application number. Please direct all communications prior to issuance to Mail Stop ISSUE FEE unless advised to the contrary.

IMPORTANT REMINDER: Utility patents issuing on applications filed on or after Dec. 12, 1980 may require payment of maintenance fees. It is patentee's responsibility to ensure timely payment of maintenance fees when due.

PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL

Complete and send this form, together with applicable fee(s), to: Mail

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APPLICATION NO. FILING DATE FIRST NAMED INVENTOR ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. CONFIRMATION NO. 10/056,131 01/24/2002 Glenn E. Hoffman 2480 2338 TITLE OF INVENTION: FURNACE HEARTH FOR IMPROVED MOLTEN IRON PRODUCTION AND METHOD OF OPERATION APPLN. TYPE SMALL ENTITY ISSUE FEE PUBLICATION FEE TOTAL FEE(S) DUE DATE DUE nonprovisional NO \$1330 \$0 \$1330 05/03/2004 EXAMINER ART UNIT CLASS-SUBCLASS ANDREWS, MELVYN J 1742 075-484000 1. Change of correspondence address or indication of "Fee Address" (137 CFR 1.363). Change of correspondence address (or Change of Correspondence Address from PTO/SB/47; Rev 03-02 or more recent) attached. Use of a Customer Number is required. 3. ASSIGNEE NAME AND RESIDENCE DATA TO BE PRINTED ON THE PATENT (print or type) PLEASE NOTE: Unless an assignee is identified below, no assignee data will appear on the patent. Inclusion of assignce data is only appropriate when an assignment habeen previously submitted to the USPTO or is being submitted under separate cover. Completion of this form is NOT a substitute for filing an assignment. (A) NAME OF ASSIGNEE	- 4			or <u>Fax</u>	(703) 746-4000		
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Please check the appropriate assignee category or categories (will not be printed on the patent);	☐ Change of corresponde Address form PTO/SB/1: ☐ "Fee Address" indicati PTO/SB/47; Rev 03-02 of Number is required. 3. ASSIGNEE NAME AND PLEASE NOTE: Unless been previously submitte	22) attached. on (or "Fee Address" Indicator more recent) attached. Use RESIDENCE DATA TO B an assignee is identified beld to the USPTO or is being s	tion form e of a Customer E PRINTED ON T low, no assignee disubmitted under se	agents OR, alterr firm (having as a agent) and the m attorneys or agen will be printed. THE PATENT (print ata will appear on th parate cover. Comple	natively, (2) the name is member a registered times of up to 2 regists. If no name is listed or type) e patent. Inclusion of this form is NO	assignce data is only appropria	ite when an assignment has
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APPLICATION NO. FILING DATE		FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.	
10/056,131	01/24/2002	Glenn E. Hoffman	2480	2338	
22474	7590 02/03/2004		EXAM	EXAMINER	
DOUGHERTY 1901 ROXBORC	, CLEMENTS & HOFER		ANDREWS, MELVYN J		
SUITE300	odii konb		ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER	
CHARLOTTE, N	IC 28211		1742		

DATE MAILED: 02/03/2004

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Determination of Patent Term Adjustment under 35 U.S.C. 154 (b)

(application filed on or after May 29, 2000)

The Patent Term Adjustment to date is 161 day(s). If the issue fee is paid on the date that is three months after the mailing date of this notice and the patent issues on the Tuesday before the date that is 28 weeks (six and a half months) after the mailing date of this notice, the Patent Term Adjustment will be 161 day(s).

If a Continued Prosecution Application (CPA) was filed in the above-identified application, the filing date that determines Patent Term Adjustment is the filing date of the most recent CPA.

Applicant will be able to obtain more detailed information by accessing the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system (http://pair.uspto.gov).

Any questions regarding the Patent Term Extension or Adjustment determination should be directed to the Office of Patent Legal Administration at (703) 305-1383. Questions relating to issue and publication fee payments should be directed to the Customer Service Center of the Office of Patent Publication at (703) 305-8283.